

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An outer door panel for an appliance door assembly, said outer door panel comprising:

a frame comprising opposite lateral sides;

an outer surface extending from said frame and bowed between said lateral sides; and

a recessed control mounting surface extending from said outer surface between said lateral sides.

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2. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said outer surface extends between said control mounting surface and a top edge of said frame.

3. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said appliance is a dishwasher, said frame comprises a control panel cutout, said control mounting surface comprising an escutcheon received within said cutout.

4. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said outer surface is fabricated from metal.

5. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 3 wherein said escutcheon is fabricated from plastic.

6. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said door comprises a longitudinal axis, said control mounting surface disposed at an angle with said longitudinal axis.

7. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said panel is unitary.

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8. An outer door panel for a dishwasher, said outer door panel comprising:

a frame comprising a longitudinal axis,

an outer surface covering said frame; and

a control panel mounting surface within said frame and extending from said frame outer surface, said control panel mounting surface inclined with respect to said longitudinal axis.

9. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said outer surface is bowed.

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10. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said outer surface surrounds said control panel mounting surface.

11. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said control panel mounting surface comprises an escutcheon.

12. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said escutcheon is fabricated from plastic.

13. An outer door panel in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said outer surface is fabricated from metal.

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~~14. A dishwasher door assembly comprising:~~

~~an outer door panel comprising opposite lateral sides and a top edge, an outer surface extending between said lateral sides and said top edge, said outer surface surrounding a recessed control surface disposed beneath said top edge of said outer panel; and~~

~~an inner door panel attached to said outer door panel.~~

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15. A dishwasher door assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said outer surface of said outer door panel is bowed.

16. A dishwasher door assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said recessed control surface comprises an escutcheon received in said outer surface.

~~17. A dishwasher door assembly comprising:~~

~~an outer door panel comprising a bowed outer surface and a recessed control surface depending from said outer surface; and~~

~~a unitary inner door panel attached to said outer door panel.~~

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